

Regular Council Meeting
August 8, 2006

Mayor Marse called to order the regular scheduled meeting of August 8, 2006 at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Mayor J.M. Marse, Council members Jean Arrant, Mike Helton, Ray Jackson, Earl King and Charlie Simmons were present. Also present: City Attorney Clayton Adkinson and City Clerk Robin Haynes. City Planner Latilda Henninger was absent.

Councilman Helton gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilman Jackson motioned to accept the minutes of the regular council meeting of July 27, 2006, Councilman Helton seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

There were no planning issues presented.

There were no legal matters presented.

Mr. Tonny Peters reminded informed council that the original list of five sewer projects that Peters Municipal was in the process of designing have now been funded by the Northwest Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant. Mr. Peters has rewritten the agreement to remove those items. Councilman Jackson motioned to accept the amended agreement, Councilman Helton seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Old business:

Mayor Marse informed council that Mr. Tonny Peters had requested direction regarding working with Walton County on traffic concurrency. Mayor Marse and council agreed that Peters Municipal continue working with the County engineers in regards to providing City traffic counts and developments in progress but not to change the way the City counts its traffic.

Mr. Terry Barnes with CDG Engineers and Associates presented the results of the bid opening for the construction of the new City Hall. Five bids were received:

- Southern Structures Corp \$1,579,000.00
- Lord & Son Construction, Inc. \$1,594,500.00
- Floridian Construction, Inc. \$1,837,890.00
- GAC Contractors, Inc. \$1,841,564.00
- Mike Josey Construction, Inc. \$2,247,470.00

Mr. Barnes recommended council award the project with the low bid by Southern Structures Corp. He also explained that Rural Development would require the City to pledge the difference between the funds previously approved and the amount of the construction bids. Councilwoman Arrant motioned to accept the low bid by Southern Structures Corp. subject to Rural Development approval, Councilman Helton seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Simmons informed the council that he had met with Mr. Ed Rivers and Mr. Ed Baltzey with Walton County regarding the Freeport Fire Department and that he would like to have a five year plan implemented rather than a three year plan. Councilman Simmons was taken off of the Walton County Board of County Commissioners meeting until they could meet to discuss this new plan. Councilman Simmons will update the council at the next regular council meeting.

Mayor Marse told the council that bids were being taken for the sewer department metal building and that they would be opened on August 15, 2006.

New business:

Robin Haynes informed the council that utility billing clerk Brooke Jackson had turned in her two weeks notice and requested approval to advertise the job position vacancy. Councilman Jackson motioned to advertise for the job position, Councilman King seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Helton motioned to pay all bills in order, Councilman King seconded. There was no public or council discussion. The motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Marse informed the council that he had met with a state representative and that they had discussed the senate bill 360. He left the meeting with the impression that the bill was not being interpreted in the manner that was originally intended and that there would possibly be some revision of the bill during the next sessions.

Councilman King mentioned that he has spent some time riding around the city limits and he felt that Walton County Code Enforcement would need to be utilized more in the near future due to the properties not being maintained properly.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Robin Haynes, City Clerk

Earl King, President of Council